Development of SC/ST/OBC

*174. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are closely monitoring the funds in flow from the States/UTs and the Central Ministries under the Special Component Plan intended to achieve overall development of SC/ST/OBC communities;

(b) if so, whether the current fund flow under SCP is in proportion of the population of SC/ST/OBC in the States;

(c) how many States/UTs, having a sizeable population of SCs, are setting apart adequate funds under SCP;

(d) whether only 12 Central Ministries/Departments have formulated the SCP; and

(e) if so, whether Government would prevail upon the rest to fall in line?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) Under the strategy evolved by Planning Commission, State Governments/UT Administrations and the Central Ministries are required to formulate and implement Special Component Plan (SCP) for ensuring rapid socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes by earmarking Plan funds in proportion to the percentage of SC population in the respective States/UTs. The formulation & implementation of the Special component Plan for development of SCs by 27 States/UTs is reviewed regularly.

(b) and (c) In 5 States namely Haryana, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal allocate funds under Special Component Plan in proportion to their Scheduled Castes population in the last two years. Other States/UTs are reminded from time to time to allocate funds in proportion to their Scheduled Castes population.

(d) and (e) The Central Tripartite Committee set up by the Planning Commission in 1999 had grouped all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India into three categories based upon the feasibility of earmarking funds under SCP and TSP. In category-III, 30 Ministries/ Departments have been grouped which are service oriented and also have

activities of divisible nature. At present 16 Central Ministries/Departments are formulating and implementing Special Component Plan. The position is reviewed at regular intervals.

Projects for NE States

*175. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the projects and their status that have been undertaken by North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. in the North Eastern States;

(b) the details of the projects set up in Tripura;

(c) whether Government are aware that the pineapple processing project at Nalkata of Tripura is deteriorating year by year and the rate of production is showing downward trend; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH) :(a) North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) has the following projects in the North Eastern States:

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Capacity	Location	Present Status
1.	Pineapple Juice Concentration Plant	48 Tonnes Per Day	Nalkata District, Dhalai (TRIPURA)	Operational Since 1988
2.	Cashew Processing Unit	500 Kgs. Per day	Arundhati Nagar industrial Estate, Agartala, Tripura	Operational since 1993-94
3.	Ginger Processing Plant	5 Tonnes Per Day	Export Promotional industrial Park, Byrnihat, Meghalaya	Completed in June 2004, and trial run carried out in June July, 2004.